

From: Michael Chofre [mailto:twasfo59@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2008 1:14 PM
To: MLPAComments
Cc: Ruth Chofré
Subject: PLEASE!!! establish a State Marine Reserves in this area

Please help my voice be heard...I'm asking for the establishment of State Marine Reserves in these areas:

Extend Gerstle Cove State Marine Reserve:

Start From: N38 33.77 W123 20.10
Salt Point State Park, Gerstle Cove

End At: N38 33.51 W123 19.65
South of Gerstle Cove in Salt Point State Park

Establish Fort Ross State Marine Reserve:

Start At: N38 31.24 W123 16.22
End at: N38 30.21 W123 14.76
Between Fort Ross and Reef Camp Ground

Having been a certified SCUBA diver for the past 41 years, and an underwater photographer for 20 of them, who loves to dive the cold waters off California's coast, I've see the times of plenty, when all I had to do was point my face/mask downward, and sea life was everywhere. It isn't easy nowadays to find a place that is safe, maintained, and respected, is it? So precious little is set apart for non-consumptive recreation.

I'm asking (is that a strong enough word?) that the MLPA call for the protection and establishment of heritage marine-protected areas. Gerstle Cove and Fort Ross are already established and protected State Parks. The protection of these small MPAs would qualify under the goal #4 of the State Law. Somewhere, in the entire North Coast Project, there should be a reasonable area set aside for non-consumptive recreational use. These are the two most likely set aside for non-consumptive use.

Please let this e-letter speak for me...a California resident, who enjoys the use of these areas...a diver...an underwater photographer, and a member of the Board of the Northern California Underwater Photographic Society! My husband, Michael, joins me in this urgent request.

Thank you.

Michael and Ruth Chofre